

Pursuant to proper notice, a public meeting of the County Commissioners of the County of Norfolk was held at 614 High Street, Dedham, MA and via Zoom Videoconference on December 21, 2022, notice of said meeting having been posted as required by law. Commissioners present were:

Chairman Joseph P. Shea  
Commissioner Peter H. Collins  
Commissioner Richard R. Staiti

Chairman Shea called the meeting of the Norfolk County Commissioners to order at 10:04 am.

Chairman Shea stated on Thursday, March 12, 2020, Governor Baker issued an "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30A, Section 20." That Order was effective immediately until it is rescinded or the State of Emergency is terminated. On Wednesday, July 17, 2022 by action of the Legislature the order was extended until March 31, 2023.

Chairman Shea stated he led Pledge of Allegiance at the prior Norfolk County Agricultural High School Board of Trustees Meeting at 9:45 am.

Chairman Shea called the Commissioners roll and Commissioner Staiti, Commissioner Collins and Chairman Shea responded "present."

Chairman Shea stated he intends to complete the Commissioners' agenda and return to the recessed trustees meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Staiti, seconded by Commissioner Collins and

VOTED: To approve the Open Session Meeting Minutes of December 14, 2022, as submitted

Chairman Shea stated there is no public comment.

Chairman Shea stated there is no old business to discuss.

Chairman Shea stated there are no appointments.

A motion was made by Commissioner Staiti, seconded by Commissioner Collins and

VOTED: To execute personnel matters as follows:

Facilities Maintenance

Notice of Appointment for Paul Dutton of Quincy, MA 02169 as Custodian 2nd Shift, JG: 9-3 \$42,135.84 effective 12/27/2022

A motion was made by Commissioner Staiti, seconded by Commissioner Collins and

VOTED: To execute personnel matters as follows:

Agricultural High School

Notice of Salary Increase for Ronald Conklin of Norfolk, MA 02056 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Luke Burns of Plainville, MA 02762 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Janet Doherty of Holbrook, MA 02343 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Jocelyn Gaboriault of Holliston, MA 01746 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Sabina Gill of Braintree, MA 02184 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Justine Grassey of Franklin, MA 02038 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for John Hanrahan of Westwood, MA 02090 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Setheli Hellerstein of Sharon, MA 02067 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Barry Hansen of Westwood, MA 02090 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Samantha Kraus of Hull, MA 02045 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Cait Lanza of Wrentham, MA 02093 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Christine McLellan-Edgerly of as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Lauren Zysk of Foxborough, MA 02035 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Nicholas Viola of Wrentham, MA 02093 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for David Turi of Norfolk, MA 02056 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Jeannette Rossetti of Franklin, MA 02038 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Thomas Myers of Ayer, MA 01432 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Haley Maziarz of Walpole, MA 02081 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Doreen Dix of Plainville, MA 02762 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Madysen Delosh of West Roxbury, MA 02132 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Eileen Czyrkis of Wrentham, MA 02098 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Lidia Panfilova of Walpole, MA 02081 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Richard Vernon of Upton, MA 01568 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023.

Notice of Salary Increase for Edward McFarland of Plainville, MA 02762 as Substitute Instructor, JG: Flat \$125.00/day effective 1/1/2023

John Wallace, Business Manager, NCAHS, stated the daily rate increases for substitute instructors are necessary to remain competitive with surrounding schools.

A motion was made by Commissioner Staiti, seconded by Commissioner Collins and

VOTED: To execute payroll warrants as follows:

23-25	Payroll – County	142,808.78
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A motion was made by Commissioner Staiti, seconded by Commissioner Collins and

VOTED: To execute expense warrants as follows:

12-03-22	Expense – County	85,147.95
23-06A	Expense – School	137,181.70

Mr. Cronin reported on the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. He stated there are no ARPA awards today. Mr. Cronin stated the Town of Norwood returned a \$112,500 award and will request the funds for a different project. Commissioner Staiti stated he presented an ARPA award check to the Town of Canton last evening.

Chairman Shea announced there are no bid openings at 1:30 pm as detailed in Exhibit A.

Chairman Shea announced there are no contract awards as detailed in Exhibit B.

Mr. Cronin discussed the FY23 Third Supplemental Budget. Commissioner Staiti recommended considering the proposal at the end of the meeting.

Patrick Higgins, PLS, discussed requests for Engineering Department services from the Town of Dover and the Town of Dedham. He stated the Engineering Department has the capability to complete both projects.

A motion was made by Commissioner Staiti, seconded by Commissioner Collins and

VOTED: To approve a Street right of way and Topographic Survey along Dover Road to be used for roadway retaining wall design for the Town of Dover

A motion was made by Commissioner Staiti, seconded by Commissioner Collins and

VOTED: To approve a boundary survey of existing Police Station property located at #600 High St., Dedham with AutoCAD drawing on NAD83 coordinates for the Town of Dedham

Mr. Higgins stated the Dedham project is related to the tearing down of the Police Station and park construction.

A motion was made by Commissioner Staiti, seconded by Commissioner Collins and

VOTED: To approve the Norfolk County Commissioners' Calendar Year 2023 Quarterly Meeting notice

Chairman Shea stated the Norfolk County Commissioners meet more than 50 times a year, exceeding the quarterly meetings required by statute.

Mr. Cronin stated the accompanying memo indicates the Tuesday quarterly meetings are postponed to the following Wednesday.

A motion was made by Commissioner Staiti, seconded by Commissioner Collins and

VOTED: To postpone the December 28, 2022 quarterly meeting

Mr. Cronin presented the Report of the County Director. Mr. Cronin stated he attended the opioid settlement meeting in Canton.

He stated Mr. Galvin reached out to Barnstable County to discuss elderly service programs.

Mr. Cronin stated staff interviewed the final custodian candidate this week. He stated there are four Facilities Maintenance staff on extended leave. Mr. Cronin stated staff will examine solutions to deal with the matter.

Commissioner Staiti stated he attended the opioid settlement meeting in Canton and the meeting was productive and well-received.

Mr. Cronin discussed the FY23 Supplemental Budget. He stated on September 22 the Register of Deeds submitted a letter requesting a transfer from deeds excise to fund legal services. Mr. Cronin stated the Register's \$75,000 request is included in the supplemental. Register O'Donnell stated he made the request in September and that he wrote a letter on December 15 stating it is unfair to expect counsel for the Registry to work on mediation and not get paid. He stated the argument is about fairness. Commissioner Staiti stated he would like to see the matter resolved. Commissioner Staiti asked if the Register's prior appropriation was expended. Register O'Donnell stated Commissioner Staiti would have to check with the Treasurer's Office.

Mr. Cronin stated the Register originally asked for \$75,000 for legal services in September and the Register is refreshing that request now in the current supplemental appropriation. Commissioner Staiti stated the Register is looking for funds to go forward in mediation. Chairman Shea stated the Register has encumbered but has not spent the \$20,000 appropriation from September. Chairman Shea asked if there was a reason the Registry of Deeds has not spent the \$20,000. He stated the Commonwealth supplies the mediator. Register O'Donnell stated the monies are for legal fees and services are being expended. Commissioner Collins asked why the Register does not spend the \$20,000 first. Commissioner Staiti stated the Register could get a bill that wipes out his legal account.

Commissioner Staiti made a motion to approve \$25,000 of the requested \$75,000 for Register of Deeds legal services only upon exhaustion of the previously appropriated \$20,000 only to be used on a contingent basis. Chairman Shea seconded the motion for discussion purposes only.

Chairman Shea stated he expected the \$20,000 to be exhausted. Commissioner Collins stated the \$20,000 is still sitting unspent in the Registry budget. Commissioner Staiti withdrew his motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Staiti, seconded by Chairman Shea and

VOTED: To grant the Register of Deeds the sum of \$10,000 of the requested \$75,000 requested for mediation in the Supplemental Appropriation

On the roll call vote,

Commissioner Staiti voted "yes"

Commissioner Collins voted "no"

Chairman Shea voted "yes"

Chairman Shea announced the motion passes 2-1.

Mr. Cronin discussed the Supplemental Appropriation. He stated the County proposes a supplemental appropriation and there are five associated motions. Mr. Cronin stated after September's budget adjustment the County had \$451,916 remaining in surplus. He stated moments ago the Commissioners voted to revise the Registry legal fees from \$75,000 to \$10,000. Mr. Cronin stated Agricultural School (NCAHS) items are funded from school surplus. He stated the total amount of the supplemental appropriation is \$1,325,925.71.

Mr. Cronin stated the Commonwealth approved the Wollaston Recreational Facility earmark and the County is pursuing those funds to put back into the County budget. He stated today's supplemental appropriation includes transfers related to collective bargaining, salary increases. Mr. Cronin stated the weights and measurers program is offset by defunding the Dedham District Court generator project. He stated NCAHS has a series of transfers to fund an upcharge on a pickup truck.

Mr. Cronin stated the Commissioners were notified of a Retirement Board vote that will add an additional \$400,000 to County expenses over the next six years.

Commissioner Staiti asked why NCAHS is not pursuing the cafeteria study. John Wallace, NCAHS Business Manager, stated NCAHS needs further discussions to do the study properly. Commissioner Staiti stated the NCAHS Trustees had a feeling that the study was moving forward. He stated there should have been discussions on the matter. Mr. Wallace stated school management decided to withdraw the study.

Mr. Cronin stated there are five motions in total. He stated the motions include a 2.75% COLA adjustment for non-union employees and excludes the Registry of Deeds union.

A motion was made by Commissioner Staiti, seconded by Commissioner Collins and

VOTED: to approve the de-authorization of the following items previously funded for FY23 supplemental use:

De-authorize Brookline gutters/downspouts project from 9/14/22 approval	\$ 163,050.00
De-authorize School cafeteria study from 9/14/22 approval	\$ 100,000.00

A motion was made by Commissioner Staiti, seconded by Commissioner Collins and

VOTED: to approve the de-authorization of the following FY23 capital items:

Dedham District Court Generator	(\$99,000)
School skid steer	(\$3,400)
School Kemp Hall Electrical Panel	(\$899)
School McFarland Hall Electric Panel	(\$1499.55)
School Scissor Lift	(\$1,005)
School Café upgrades	(\$1600.45)

A motion was made by Commissioner Staiti, seconded by Commissioner Collins and

VOTED: to approve the following authorization of new FY23 capital items:

New Weights and measure program vehicle/equipment	\$99,000
School new Utility pickup	\$8,354

A motion was made by Commissioner Staiti, seconded by Commissioner Collins and

VOTED: to approve funding two County collective bargaining agreements (Engineering and Facility Maintenance) and non-union County personnel (excluding School) retroactive to July 1, 2022:  
*Engineering contract value total (inclusive of COLA's as 2.75%, 2.5%, and 2.25%, Longevity, Safety Stipend, and Clothing allowance)*  
**\$18,098.25**  
*Facility Maintenance contract value total (inclusive of 2.75%, 2.5%, and 2.25%, Longevity, and HAZMAT stipend)*  
**\$72,952.61**  
*Non-Union County personnel (2.75%)*  
**\$92,886.03**

A motion was made by Commissioner Staiti, seconded by Commissioner Collins and

VOTED: to approve the full Supplemental, Transfer and Capital expenditures totaling \$1,325,925.71 (inclusive of new FY23 capital spending, supplemental items as presented, items funded from Deeds excise as shown, and associated transfers)

Chairman Shea announced the vote was unanimous.

Register O'Donnell stated he received an email on Friday regarding the IT items funded with deeds excise. He stated his desire to review and reconsider these items in April. Register O'Donnell stated this is the subject matter of a lawsuit. He stated the history of deeds excise is to use it when needed. Mr. Cronin stated the proposal includes the replacement of a fire alarm at the Registry. Register O'Donnell stated the project was completed. He asked for details of the \$150,000 for IT items. Register O'Donnell stated the County put a camera in a parking lot to make sure Mr. Cronin's car does not get scratched. Mr. Cronin stated Register O'Donnell's conduct is conduct unbecoming of an elected official. He stated there is a long history of discussion with the Registry regarding IT and the CIO.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Commissioner Staiti, seconded by Commissioner Collins and unanimously

VOTED: to adjourn the meeting

Meeting adjourned at 11:03 am.

ATTEST:

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Recording Secretary

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Clerk